(d) the average time being taken by the Boards to expedite their decision on applications seeking clearance for industrial units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) :

(a) No formal complaint has been made by entrepreneurs regarding the auctioning of the Pollution Control Boards. The Central Government has, however, initiated action for strengthening the Boards from its own resources and through bilateral and multilateral funding.

(b) does not arise.

(c) The step have been taken to streamline the consent issue procedure to the industrial units flor the discharge of effluent and emission and directives have been issued whereby small scale industries other than those in the 17 categories of highly polluting industries are not requires to obtainan annual consent of the. Pollution Control Boards.

(d) Under the provisions of the Acts, the consent by the State Pollution Control Boards unless given or refused earlier be deemed to have been given unconditionally on the expiry of a period of 4 months of the making of an application in this behalf complete in all respects to the State Boards.

Financial allocation for afforestation in Bihar

3551. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state : (a) whether it is a fact that the policy of government envisages afforestation as one of the major activities all over the country;

(b)if SO, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have allocated funds for outlays on afforestation activities during the Eighth Five Year Plan; if so the details of the State-wise allocations, alongwith the details of funds utilised so far by the respective States/Union Territories;

(d) whether it is also a fact that Non-Governmental Organisations engased in afforestaiton activities are eligible to receive financial assstance trom Government, as well as from ies abroad; and

(e) the details of financial alloca tions provided to Bihar for implemen ting afforestation programmes during the current plan period so far. along with the details of financial assist ance if any, received by Govemment as well as the NGOs in Bihar for pur suing the activity?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE. MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Afforestation and tree planting activities are taken up all over the country depending on the overall availability of funds under the Central and State Plans. An illustrative list of schemes under which these activities are taken up is given in the enclosed statement. (See below)

(c) while the Eighth Plan document indicates the allocations tor afforestation and tree planting activities for the entire Eighth Plan period, the acual allocations for Central and State Plans are finalised on an annual basis. State-wise/Union Territory-wise allocation and utilisation of funds during each of the three years of the Eighth Plan period so far is given in the statement at Annexure (See Appendix 173)—Annexure 73)

(d) and (e) Non-Governmental Organisations and Voluntary Agencies are eligible to receive financial assistance under specific schemes being implemented by the Central Government Ministries and Departments, State Government and Union Territory Administration for this purpose.

Non-Governmental Organisations/ Voluntary Agencies can receive finan cial assistance from foreign agencies subject to the prevalent rules and re gulations of the Government. The de tails of financial allocations to the State of Bihar for implementing affo restation and tree planting activities during each of the three years of the Eighth Plan period so far, and the details of the financial assistance pro vided to the Non-Governmental Or-ganisations|Vo1untary Agencies in Bihar under the Granls-in-Aids Scheme of the National Afforestation and Eco-Development Board (NAEE) in this period is given in the statement II and III respectively.

Statement

List of Schemes under which afforestation and trees planting activities fire taken tip in the country

(a) Ministry of Environment and Forests:

1. Integrated AiYorestation and Eco-Develoment Project Scheme.
2. Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Proect Scheme.
3. Minor Forest Produce including Medicinal Plants Scheme.
4. Grants-in-Aid to Voluntary Agencies.
5. Develoment of National Parks and Sanctuaries.
6. Project Elephant.
7. Project Tiger.
8. Development of Infrastrnoture for Protection of forests from Biotic Interference.
9. Association of Schedule Tribes and Rural Poor in the Regene ration of degraded forests.
10. Modern Forest fire Control methods.

(b) Ministry of Rural Development:

1. Desert Development Prograrmme.
2. Drought Prone Area Prortame.
3. Jawahar Rojgar .
4. Integrived We,..natic.'., !>,'ve!op-ment Project Seheme

(c) Ministry of Agriculture

1 Soil Conservation in the Catchment of River Valley Projects.

2. Integrated Watershed Management in the Catchments of Flood Prone River of indo-Gangetic basin.

Statement-II

funds,provided to Bihar

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Allocation
1992-93	2112.46
1993-94	3381.46
1994-95	4715.60

Statement-III

Funds provided to voluntary Agencies/Non-Governmental Organisations in Bihar during past three years

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Amount
1992-93	37.33
1993-94	36.53
1994-95	25.30